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ABSTRACT

This guide is intended to help Kentucky families of children with disabilities or other special needs to find services in their communities. Introductory information offers guidance in selecting services, applying for services, obtaining services, and organizing to obtain unavailable services. A question-and-answer format is used, with space provided for families to record information relevant to their situation. The questions address the following topics: emergency financial assistance, short-term or long-term financial assistance, financial help for medical bills, financial help for medicine or medical equipment, financial help for food, sources of furniture assistance, emergency assistance for utility bills, services provided by the local health department, services provided by the Commission for Handicapped Children, mental health services available for children, types of physicians, and dentistry. A number of addresses of Kentucky agencies and resources are provided. (DB)

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ACCESS

A Guide To Supplemental Services For Families of Young Children

Project STEPS

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Office of Educational Research and Improvement
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ACCESS

A Guide to Finding Community Services

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Purpose

This guide has been developed to help families of young children locate services in their home community. This guide was written to help families of preschool and school-age children, most of the information may also be helpful to find services for adults. While this guide makes many references toservices in the state of Kentucky, it can easily be adapted to other states. Terminology may differ from state to state but programs are essentially the same.

How To Use This Guide

This guide has been set up on a question and answer format. An effort has been made to list the question families usually ask when they need help.Various agencies and organizations which can usually be found in local communities are listed along with information about the services that they usually provide. Space is provided so that the name of the local agency or organization in the community can be written in under each question. Names, addresses, and phone numbers of local agencies and organizations may be found in your phone book. However, if you should need extra help, the following agencies may be able to help you:

Your local **Comprehensive Care Center** (in some areas, this agency is referred to as the local Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board or MH/MR Board for short. Check to see which is right for you local area.) Throughout this guide, the term **Comprehensive Care Center** is used. If it has a different name in your community, you should list that name in this guide.

Your local offices of the **Cabinet for Human Resources** or **Department of Human Services.**

The person in charge of **Special Education** in your local public school.

The person in charge of **Preschool Programs** in your local public school.

Your local **Health Department.**

The following suggestions may help in selecting, applying for, and

obtaining services:

1) **Selecting Services** - The process of selecting the service or services you and/or your family may qualify for can be rather complicated since all the requirements (eligibility, marital status, sex, age, household size, residency, geographical location, and/or special condition) must be met. If you cannot qualify for assistance from a particular organization, request information on alternate sources of help.

2) **Applying for Services** - Now that you have established what services you may qualify for, the next step is application. Remember that there are various methods of applying for services. If you telephone, be aware that the person who answers the phone at any agency or organization will most likely be a receptionist who does not handle service delivery or application but who can and will connect you with the appropriate person. Also, application for some services requires that you have certain documents with you (i.e. birth certificates, social security numbers, rent receipts, physician's report, bank statements, etc.). If you ask in advance what documents are necessary and have these available, the application process will be greatly simplified.

3) **Obtaining Services** - Once you have applied and met all the requirements, the waiting period in which you receive the service can vary. Patience and cooperation should bring quicker, more satisfactory results.

When Services Are Not Available

If you are not able to find a needed service for your child or family, the responsibility for bringing attention to this need more than likely will be yours. There are perhaps other families in the county or neighboring counties who have the same problem. The fact is that few people will have the same urgent need as you unless they are experiencing the same daily frustrations that you are. Since numbers increase the chances that an agency, community group, county council, school board, or other organization will act on your need, you must locate other families who could benefit from this service. Of course, this support in numbers will vary depending on how special the problem or need may be. If you are looking for support for day care, recreational facilities, or transportation, you will very likely find quite a few

families interested. On the other hand, if you are looking for physical or occupational therapy for your child, it may be more difficult to find others with the same need. Here are a few general suggestions to help you get started.

- Bring attention to your need by calling agencies and talking to neighbors and others.
- Once you identify other parents and they show interest, make time to meet with them personally.
- Get together as a group and talk about ways to increase your numbers.
- Keep the group's attention on creating or starting a service, not attacking an agency or organization.
- Identify people in your community (i.e., a teacher, nurse, neighbor, social worker, or friend) who can help you or possibly address the group.

6 A

HAS AN EMERGENCY TAKEN SO MUCH MONEY THAT YOU CANNOT PAY ALL OF YOUR BILLS?

The **Department for Social Insurance** has an emergency assistance program that may be able to help you.

To apply for emergency assistance call the office nearest your home.

My local phone number is: _____

• • • • •

The agencies listed below may also help you pay bills in an emergency.

My local phone is:

American Red Cross _____

Salvation Army _____

Volunteers of America _____

My local church/synagogue _____

When you go to one of these agencies, you may need to take:

- Identification
- Employment record
- Check stub
- Gas/light/water bills
- Social Security card
- Rent receipt
- Medical bills

DO YOU NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE ON A SHORT OR LONG TERM BASIS?

You may be able to receive **AFDC** (Aid to Families with Dependent Children). **AFDC** provides low income families with a monthly check if one or both parents are dead, missing, or disabled. Your children must be under 18, unless they are in school. If they are in school they must be 21 or younger.

To apply for **AFDC** call the **Department for Social Insurance** at the office nearest your home.

My local **Social Insurance** phone number is: _____

If you can get **AFDC**, you will also be able to get a **Medical Card**. You can use this card to pay for most of your family's medical bills. These bills include doctor's visits, dentist's visits, x-rays, prescription medicines, mental health care, and more.

Most people who get **AFDC** are also able to get **Food Stamps**. You can use **Food Stamps** to buy food. You will need your gas, light, and water bills, your rent receipts and medical bills. Ask about **Food Stamps** when you are applying for **AFDC**.

When you go to apply for **AFDC**, take:

- Proof of income
- Birth certificate
- Social Security card
- Proof of home ownership or rent
- Proof of savings

• • • • •

The **Social Security District Office** has programs that may be able to help you. They are:

Social Security Survivor Benefits: This program provides a regular monthly check to minor children (handicapped or nonhandicapped) who have lost a parent.

And . . . .
SSI (Supplemental Security Income): This program provides a monthly check to low-income elderly or handicapped people. If you can get **SSI**, you will also receive a **Medical Card**. You can

use this card to pay for most of your medical bills.

To apply for one of these programs and to make an appointment to talk about the best one for you, call the main **Social Security District Office** for an appointment at the office which serves your zip code.

If you are not able to go to the office, an interview can take place over the phone. There can be up to a two-week waiting period for this interview.

My local **Social Security Office** phone number is: _____

When you go to apply for **Social Security** benefits, take:

- Birth certificate
- Social Security card
- Medical record
- Work record
- Insurance records
- Income Tax information

HOW CAN I GET HELP TO PAY MEDICAL BILLS?

You may be able to get a **Medicaid Card**. The **Medicaid Card** is for persons with low-income who need help in meeting medical expenses. You can use the card to pay for:

- Doctor visits
- Dentist visits
- Clinic visits
- Medicine
- Hospital stays
- Medical tests
- X-rays
- Home Health services
- Therapy services
- Transportation to Medical Visits - This also includes stretchers and ambulances. You have to request this service a week before you need it.

To apply for a **Medicaid Card**, call the **Department for Social**

Insurance.

My local phone number is: _____

Not all doctors will take the **Medicaid Card**; so, when you apply ask for a list of doctors who will take the card.

If you are receiving **SSI (Supplemental Security Income)**, you will also get a **Medicaid Card**. It will be sent from the **Department of Social Insurance** at the beginning of each month.

When yo go to apply for a **Medicaid Card**, you may need to take:

- Income stubs
- Unemployment insurance stubs
- Doctor's statement of your physical condition
- Medical or life insurance information

You will still be able to apply for this service even if you do not have all this information for you first visit.

Insurance - many insurance policies will cover speech therapy, physical therapy, or occupational therapy as well as dental problems. Be sure to check with your employer representative or your local agent to determine your particular insurance coverage.

My insurance agent's phone number is: _____

Many times your local medical society can refer you to doctors or clinics that provide services to children. Costs for these services are figured on a sliding scale based on family income.

My local medical society phone number is: _____

Should you live in an area that has a medical school as part of a university, services may be available through their hospital. These services are usually provided at scaled down cost. This service may also apply to a school of dentistry as well.

The local public health department also provides a number of services at very low cost. These services usually include:

- Prenatal care
- Well baby/child check-ups
- Nutritional Counseling for newborns and toddlers
- WIC (government subsidized food program for infants and

toddlers)
- Immunizations for babies and children

My local **Health Department** phone number is: _____

NEED HELP TO BUY MEDICINE OR OTHER MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?

The following national organizations provide services and medical equipment to disabled individuals. They may have different criteria to be eligible for their services so you may need to discuss your individual situation with representatives of their organizations. In Kentucky, these organizations are:

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Department of Education
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-4440
(Helps a disabled person 16 or older get ready to take a job, will provide or buy medicine, medical equipment, and medical care.)

Division for Community Services for Mental Retardation
275 East Main Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40621
(502) 564-4334
(Serves people with developmental disorders.)

My local **Health Department** phone number is: _____

My local number is:

American Cancer Society _____
Loans medical equipment to cancer patients.

Arthritis Foundation _____
Loans medical equipment to people with Arthritis.

Crippled Children's Services
/Commission for Handicapped Children _____
Helps people buy glasses, hearing aids, and medicine for children. Offers scaled down medical care for children as well.

Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults
Provides such things as corrective shoes, crutches, braces, wheelchairs, glasses, and hearing aids.

Kidney Foundation
Provides medicine and dialysis machines for kidney patients; small fee may be charged.

Muscular Dystrophy Association
For people with muscular dystrophy.

National March of Dimes Foundation
For people with birth defects.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Provides crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, etc. to people with Multiple Sclerosis.

Shriners Organizations
Provides free services for children with orthopedic disabilities (surgery, equipment, hospitalizations, therapy).

Spina Bifida Association
Provides consultation and medical help for children and adults with Spina Bifida.

These agencies may be able to provide you with medicine or medical equipment. A fee may be charged so you will need to ask about it when you call them.

DO YOU RUN OUT OF MONEY TO BUY FOOD?

You may be able to get **Food Stamps**. Low-income families can use **Food Stamps** to buy food. To find out if you can get **Food Stamps**, call the **Department for Social Insurance**.

If you get **Food Stamps**, you will get a blue and white card in the mail. You can exchange this card for **Food Stamps**.
You may be able to get your **Food Stamps** through **Expedited Services**. Families or individuals who have little or no income can get their **Food Stamps** in two days by asking for **Expedited**

Services when they apply.
My local **Department for Social Insurance** phone number is:

_____

When you go to apply for **Food Stamps**, take:

- Proof of income
- Rent receipt or house payment receipt
- Gas, electric, and water bills

You may be able to get in the **WIC** Program (Women, Infants, and Children's Program). The **WIC** Program is for pregnant women, women who are breastfeeding their babies, and children under 5 years old. You must also be from a low-income family.

To find out if you are eligible for the **WIC** Program, call your local **Health Department**.

My local **Health Department** phone number is: _____

In many larger areas, there are food banks established for emergency needs. Programs such as Kentucky Harvest, God's Pantry, and St. Vincent DePaul Kitchens are available. To locate such programs, you may contact larger local churches (especially Catholic Diocese) or your Cabinet for Human Resources. They may be able to direct you to these.

The following agencies may be able to provide you with food or assistance in an emergency.

	My local phone number is:
American Red Cross	_____
Community Action Agency	_____
Cabinet for Human Resources	_____
Local Ministerial Association	_____
Salvation Army	_____
Society of St. Vincent DePaul	_____
Volunteers of America	_____

Salvation Army _____

Local County Government _____

Local Urban League _____

Local Tenant Services _____

When you go to one of these agencies to apply for **Public Housing** you may need to take:

- Income tax statement
- Proof of income

NEED FURNITURE?

If you need furniture but cannot afford to pay the full cost for it, call:

My local phone number is:

Goodwill Industries _____

Volunteers of America _____

St. Vincent DePaul Society _____

Salvation Army _____

HAS AN EMERGENCY MADE IT HARD TO PAY YOUR RENT OR UTILITY BILLS?

The **Kentucky Department for Social Insurance** has an energy assistance program. **HEAP** (Heat Energy Assistance Program). This program helps low-income, elderly, and disabled people pay their heating bills. You can only get help starting in January until March 31. Call the **Department for Social Insurance.**

My local **Department for Social Insurance** phone number is:

_____

The following agencies may also be able to help pay rent and utilities in an emergency.

My local phone number is:

Salvation Army _____
Local church/synagogue
or ministerial association _____

OR . . .

Call your local utility company for assistance.

When you go to one of these agencies, you may need to take:

- Income stub
- Gas/light/water bills
- Rent receipts
- Social Security card
- Identification

WHAT SERVICES ARE OFFERED BY MY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT?

Local Health Department Programs - provide a variety of services/programs for persons of all ages.

Services for children include:

Communicable Diseases - treatment, referral, counseling, preventive therapy, and health education.

Inborn Errors of Metabolism - (PKU) - screening follow-up tests to determine diagnosis and possible referrals if necessary.

Vision and Hearing - screening and referrals if necessary.

Immunizations - clinics for immunization against many

communicable diseases.

Crippled Children's Services/Commission for Handicapped Children

General Pediatrics and Preventive Child Health - comprehensive screening.

WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) - the Special Supplemental Food Program, designed to provide specific foods along with nutrition education to pregnant, breast feeding, and post-partum women, infants, and children to five (5) years of age at nutritional risk.

Regional Pediatric Clinics - designed to provide care to medically indigent children, birth through 21 years of age, with chronic illnesses that require continuing supervision by a pediatrician.

Diabetes - education training for parents of children between the ages of 0-5 who have diabetes.

Fluoride Supplement - for preschool children who are not presently receiving fluoridated drinking water.

Fluoride Mouthrinse - available for all school children ages 5-14 years of age and is offered to the Head Start Program ages 3 and up.

School Fluoridation - if no public water supply.

Tuberculosis - screening on school enrollees and treatment if necessary.

WHAT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY THE COMMISSION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN?

Commission for Handicapped Children - provides comprehensive treatment for children from birth to 21. Services are offered to families who are unable to provide all or part of the medical treatment required by their handicapped child. To be eligible, the child must have one condition accepted by the Commission. A sliding scale for fees is available.

Services include:

Diagnostic Services
Outpatient Treatment Services
Inpatient Hospital Treatment, including surgery
Auxiliary Services including:
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Audiology
- Psychology

Regional Clinics (these clinics are available in various parts of the state).
- Orthopedic
- Cleft lip and palate
- Neurology
- Cerebral Palsy
- Heart
- Neurosurgical
- Amputee
- Cranial-facial Anomalies
- Ophthalmology
- Otology
- Convulsive Disorders

For further information contact your local **Health Department** or the state office for **Commission for Handicapped Children.**

The Commission for Handicapped Children
1405 East Burnett
Louisville, Kentucky 40217
(502) 588-4459

WHAT CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT HOME HEALTH SERVICES FOR MY CHILD?

While **Home Health** services are generally thought of as primarily serving the elderly population, in some cases services are available to children with certain disabling conditions or health problems.

Home Health services are defined as those health and health related services provided:

- on an intermittent basis
- under a physician's plan of treatment
- to homebound patients

While all agencies provide skilled nursing services, some provide:

- nursing services
- home health aide services
- medical supplies/equipment
- occupational therapy
- physical therapy
- social services
- respite care

You may be eligible to receive these services through **Medicaid** or **Medicare** (for the elderly). In other cases, insurance or other third party payment sources may help defray the cost.

To find the names of your local **Home Health** organizations, consult the Yellow Pages of your phone book or call your local **Health Department**.

My local phone number is: _____

WANT TO KNOW ABOUT TYPES OF PHYSICIANS WHO CAN SERVE YOUR CHILD?

Allergist - specialist in allergies which may lead to feeding problems, ear infections, respiratory problems, and skin disorders.

An allergist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Neurologist - specialist in dealing with the nervous system. Example: seizure activity or hyperactivity.

A neurologist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Ophthalmologist - one who specializes in the diagnosis, medical and surgical treatment of diseases and defects of the eye.

An ophthalmologist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Orthopedist - one who specializes in treatment and correction of deformities of the skeletal system (bones).

An orthopedist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Otorhinolaryngologist (E.N.T.) - one who specializes in treatment of the head/neck including the ears, nose, and throat.

An E.N.T. in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Pediatrician - one who specializes in the development and care of children as well as the treatment of their diseases.

A pediatrician in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Psychiatrist - one who specializes in the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness.

A psychiatrist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

Some of the above specialists may limit their practice to children. If so, they will be referred to as a pediatric allergist, a pediatric neurologist, etc.

WHAT ABOUT DENTAL CARE FOR MY CHILD?

You may need to seek services from the following people in order to get appropriate dental care for your child.

Oral-Maxillofacial Surgeon - corrective and reconstructive surgery of the mouth and jaw.

An oral surgeon in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Orthodontist - one who specializes in the development and correction of irregularities of the teeth and malocclusions, and with associated facial abnormalities.

An orthodontist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

Pedodontist - one who specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions in the teeth and mouth of children.

A pedodontist in my area is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

The **University of Kentucky** and the **University of Louisville** both have schools of medicine and dentistry. If you are having difficulty finding medical or dental help for your child, you might contact the College of Medicine or the College of Dentistry at one of these universities for assistance.

University of Kentucky School of Dentistry
A.B. Chandler Medical Center
800 Rose Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40536
(606) 233-5850

University of Kentucky School of Medicine
A.B. Chandler Medical Center
800 Rose Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40536
(606) 233-5000

University of Louisville School of Dentistry
2301 South Third Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40292
(502) 588-5295
University of Louisville School of Medicine
2301 South Third Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40292
(502) 588-5184

My local **Transit Authority** number is: _____

• • • • •

In some cases the local **Community Action** program will also transport individuals.

My local **Community Action** number is: _____

• • • • •

In larger communities throughout Kentucky the local **American Red Cross** has a program called **WHEELS**. They will help in transporting a disabled individual to various medical appointments as well as to shopping centers and grocery stores. A small fee is usually charged.

My local **Red Cross WHEELS** phone number is: _____

• • • • •

If you have difficulty finding transportation for you child, you might also call the **Social Worker** assigned to your family or talk to the minister of your church. Many times churches will help with transporting persons in need to various events and appointments.

In most communities, parents who receive **AFDC, SSI, food stamps,** and other government funded benefits may also be eligible for taxi vouchers to transport their children to needed medical and dental appointments. To find out more about this, contact your **Department for Social Insurance.**

If you have a local support group (i.e. American Cancer Society or Muscular Dystrophy Association) they too may help with transportation.

NEED HELP TO PROVIDE A CAR SEAT FOR YOUR INFANT/TODDLER?

It is illegal to transport your child without a car seat (if child is under 40" tall). If you cannot afford a car seat for your child, there are several resources for you:

- Local Health Department - loans car seats
- American Red Cross - can locate car seat donors for you
- Consignment Shops - sell used car seats at reduced rates

WANT INFORMATION ON HANDICAPPED PARKING PERMITS, LICENSE PLATES, OR SIGNS?

To apply for a handicapped PARKING PERMIT . . .

- You must have a handicap that keeps you from walking or makes it hard to walk
- You doctor must sign the application
- Your application must be notarized
- There is a $2.00 fee

To apply for a HANDICAPPED LICENSE PLATE . . .

- You must have lost the use of one or both legs or arms or eb blind
- You must submit application to the county clerk
- Your application must be notarized
- There is a $13.50 fee

A handicapped PARKING PERMIT is primarily for persons with a handicapped child or non-driving handicapped individual.

A HANDICAPPED LICENSE PLATE is primarily for a handicapped driver who has a car registered in his/her name.

For an application or information contact your county clerk.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

If you cannot afford attorney fees contact your local **Legal Aid Society**. In some cases they may be able to provide services at no cost to you.

My local **Legal Aid Society** phone number is: _____

• • • • •

If you have a disabled child, you need special help in planning for his/her future. If you have not made legal arrangements for your child, it is highly recommended that you contact an attorney to discuss guardianship, wills, etc.

My attorney is: _____

_____

_____

• • • • •

The **Association for Retarded Citizens** also offers a publication discussing legal issues involved with a disabled child. It is entitled "How to Provide for Their Future." You may obtain a copy of this for $2.00 plus .25 for postage and handling by writing:

Association for Retarded Citizens
Post Office Box 6109
Arlington, Texas 76011

• • • • •

Your local insurance agent may also have information on how to plan for your disabled child.

My local agent is: _____

_____

_____

DO YOU NEED INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR DISABLED CHILD'S RIGHTS?

Advocacy programs have been established to protect the human, legal, and civil rights of the handicapped. For more information concerning the rights of your disabled child, write or call:

Protection and Advocacy
State Office Building Annex
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
1-800-372-2988

• • • • •

The Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (a group of concerned citizens appointed by the governor) develops services for and protects the rights of people with developmental disabilities. For more information concerning the rights of those with developmental disabilities call or write:

Executive Director
D.D. Planning Council
Department for Health Services
Cabinet for Human Resources
275 East Main Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40621
(502) 564-7841

DO YOU SUSPECT THAT SOMEONE IS ABUSING/NEGLECTING A CHILD?

It is very important that you report any abuse/neglect situations to the proper authorities. Should you feel that someone you are acquainted with is neglecting or abusing a child, you should report this. It is not necessary to give your name.

The proper place to report such incidents is:

My local number is:

Department for Social & Protective Services _____

Kentucky Council on Child Abuse
TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-432-9251

Your local Child Abuse Council _____

Should you be unable to locate any of these numbers, or get help regarding this, you can also call your local police department, and they will direct you to the proper channels.

WANT TO KNOW HOW TO ENROLL YOUR CHILD IN PUBLIC SCHOOL?

To enroll your child in public school call your local **Board of Education.**

My local phone number is: _____

• • • • •

NOTE - if you have a kindergarten aged child, (5 by October 1 of year he will attend school) your child must be enrolled by December 1 of that year or he/she will have to be enrolled the following year.

NEED HELP GETTING NECESSARY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR YOUR DISABLED CHILD?

According to Public Law #94-142, public schools must provide a free appropriate education to disabled students. If your child is having an education-related problem because of a disability, call your special education coordinator at the local **Board of Education.**

My local phone number is: _____

You might also call the **State Department of Education, Division for Early Childhood** in Frankfort, Kentucky for assistance.

State Department of Education, Division for Early Childhood
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-7056

When you go to enroll your child in public school you will need to take a birth certificate and a copy of the immunization record. (The immunization record may be obtained from your doctor or local health department.)

NEED CHILD CARE OR PRESCHOOL SERVICES FOR YOUR CHILD?

If you want to enroll your child in a preschool or day care and wish more information, you should contact one of the following:

	My local phone number is:
Child Care Council	_____
Day Care Licensing Board	_____
Community Action Head Start	_____
Local Public School Board	_____
Local University Family Studies Program or Department of Early Childhood	_____
Comprehensive Care Center	_____
Crippled Children's Services	_____
Head Start	_____
Local Health Department	_____
My physician	_____

If you are a recipient of a social services program such as **AFDC, SSI,** or **Food Stamps,** you may also be eligible for a government funded program called **Purchase of Day Care.** This program pays an allotted amount to day care centers so that you may return to school or find a job. Many good licensed day care centers accept **Purchase of Day Care.** To find our if you might qualify, contact your local **Social Services** agency.

You might also call the **State Department of Education** in Frankfort, Kentucky for assistance.

Department of Education, Division for Early Childhood
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 502-564-7056

IS YOUR CHILD EXPERIENCING PROBLEMS IN SCHOOL? DOES HE/SHE NEED TO BE EVALUATED TO DETERMINE THE TYPE OF PROBLEM?

Many young children experience various problems in school. They can be related to attending, learning disabilities, hearing/vision, and a multitude of other concerns. The best place to start is with your child's school. A psychologist should be available through the school to determine problem areas. Other types of testing may be obtained through:

My local phone number is:

Local Board of Education _____

Local Speech/Hearing Center _____

Local University/Community College _____

Local Comprehensive Care Center _____

NEED SPECIAL MATERIALS OR SERVICES FOR YOUR DISABLED CHILD?

Most public libraries provide large print books and magazines, magnifying glasses, book holders, and books recorded on tape. The libraries may also deliver books to the homes of people who cannot go to the libraries.

My local library phone number is: _____

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The Kentucky Talking Book Library provides library services to persons who are certified as visually unable to read standard print and/or physically unable to hold a book. Books and magazines are available in Braille, Recorded Disc, and Cassette. Record players are also available on a loan basis. For more information, contact:

Kentucky Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped
Post Office Box 818
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
800-372-2968

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Adapted telephone equipment is available for persons with specific handicaps, for example, a hearing loss or speech problem. For information about these services, call the Handicap Specialist for your local telephone company. The telephone number is located at the front of your telephone book.

My local telephone company phone number is: _____

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If your child relies on a life-support system, register his/her name with the local utility company. They keep an emergency patient list which enables them to provide priority service is the electricity goes off.

My local utility company phone number is: _____

ARE YOU UNABLE TO RESOLVE A PERSONAL OR A FAMILY PROBLEM?

Many times you may have a personal or family problem that is hard to resolve. These problems may or may not be related to the presence of a handicapped child in the family. The agencies listed below help people with different kinds of personal and family problems.

My local phone number is:

Local Comprehensive Care Center _____

American Red Cross _____

My local clergyman _____

Your family doctor is also a good resource. Often he may be able to refer you to a psychiatrist, psychologist, or social worker who may be able to assist you in solving your problems.

WANT TO KNOW WHAT RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR CHILD?

If you want information on recreation and leisure activities for your child, contact one of the agencies listed below.

In many local areas, service groups and organizations offer recreational activities (indoor and outdoor) for preschool and school aged children and disabled children as well. In your area, you might call:

	My local phone number is:
Boy Scouts of America	_____
Girl Scouts of America	_____
YWCA	_____
YMCA	_____
Local Parks Department	_____
Easter Seal Society	_____
Council for Retarded Citizens	_____

In some areas the local Parks and Recreation Departments may offer some of the following services:

- fishing ramps for disabled people
- special nature trails
- swimming
- classes in arts, crafts, music, and physical education
- special summer programs and camps
- state parks for disabled children/adults

The **Kentucky State Park** system is making every effort to include persons with all types of handicaps into their various recreational activities. Contact the state park in your area.

My local state park is: _____

For general information about the **Kentucky State Park** system contact:
Kentucky State Parks
Capital Plaza Tower
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 564-5410

Other sources of information regarding outdoor activities, and recreation for the handicapped are:

Outdoor Education for the Handicapped - this project provides workshops, and inservice training, consultation, and information for professionals, parents, and advocates. For information contact:

Outdoor Education for the Handicapped
110 Maxwelton Court
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40506
(606) 257-1721

Special Olympics - this program provides year round training for competition in 14 official sports. They also provide consultation for providing and starting local recreational programs. For more information contact:

Kentucky Special Olympics
710 East Main Street
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
(502) 227-7296

WHAT IF I NEED TEMPORARY CARE FOR MY DISABLED CHILD?

Respite Care - provides relief and support to families of persons with handicapping conditions; day, evening, and overnight services available; fees vary according to type of service needed

(sometimes government subsidies are available for financial aid).

For information about respite care in your area contact the following local agencies or persons:

My local phone number is:

Comprehensive Care Center _____

Local Association for Retarded Citizens _____

Local Home Health Agency _____

My local social worker or SSI (Social Security) case representative _____

WHAT IF I NEED LONG TERM CARE FOR MY DISABLED CHILD?

Residential facilities are located in various parts of the state to serve persons with specific handicapping conditions. For persons with Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities options that exist include state operated/supported residential facilities, cluster and group homes. For information about residential placement, contact you local **Comprehensive Care Center.**

My local **Comprehensive Care Center** phone number is:_____

Kentucky School for the Blind and **Kentucky School for the Deaf** are residential schools for the blind and deaf. They serve the school are population throughout the state. A child must be referred to them by the local school system. For more information consult your local school system or write:

Kentucky School for the Blind
1867 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40206
(502) 897-1583

Kentucky School for the Deaf
Post Office Box 27
Danville, Kentucky 40422
(606) 236-5132

There are other private facilities located throughout the state. Your local Comprehensive Care (Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board) may be able to direct you to an appropriate residential home.

Some of the larger Christian/Jewish organizations also support group homes and residential facilities. To find out about these contact your local church/synagogue.

My local phone number is:

Local Comprehensive Care Center _____

Local church/synagogue _____